

## **Success Stories**

Washington State Low-Income Weatherization Program

## Profile Blue Mountain Action Council Walla Walla, Washington

Blue Mountain Action Council staff performed a Weatherization audit on a small older mobile home whose owner had high energy bills. This client and his son were living in the home after the son had lost his job and the client's wife of many years had passed away. He had received energy assistance from Blue Mountain Action Council Energy Assistance Department. He was referred by staff to the Weatherization Department for possible energy savings.

Housing Auditors found a number of items that would benefit the client. With the good help of one of our partners, Pacific Power, we were able to perform or subcontract a whole host of not only weatherization, but home repair, at the same time.

This client's roof was leaking, causing interior damage. His doors and windows were broken and wasteful of energy. He had a number of electrical issues and no smoke alarms. BMAC staff enjoyed their time working at his home and getting to know the man better.

BMAC auditors performed a comprehensive energy audit on another home here in the Walla Walla Valley. This mid-70's mobile home was in fair condition, but still using a lot of energy as its factory installed insulation was no longer functioning as intended.

Energy bills averaging over \$130.00 per month were difficult for this man and his son to pay, considering their very modest income. Staff was able to develop a comprehensive list of work to insure the home functioned a lot more cost effectively and be a comfortable, healthy environment. This client was

so grateful that he came to the annual Blue Mountain Action Council meeting and praised staff.

## For more information

Contact: Ted Koehler
Housing Program Director
Blue Mountain Action
Council
tedk@bmacww.org

Contact: Julie Palakovich

Commerce Weatherization Program Manager <u>Julie.palakovich@commerce.wa.gov</u> 360.725.2948

